

Message Text

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14
ACTION EUR-12

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INFO AMEMBASY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USCINCEUR
CINCLANT
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UNCLAS USNATO 4999

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MARR, NATO
SUBJ: NATO INFRASTRUCTURE FUND AUGMENTATION

SUMMARY: THE INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE HAS STARTED, ITS DELIBERATIONS ON MAJOR NATO COMMANDERS' (MNC) REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDS. MNC BRIEFINGS WERE WELL RECEIVED AND COMMITTEE NOTED REQUIREMENT FOR CONTINGENCY FUNDS AND US SPECIAL PROGRAM (USSP) IN ADDITION TO THE MNC REQUEST. NATIONAL OPINIONS EXPRESSED WERE: CANADA- OPPOSED TO USSP; NETHERLANDS - IN FAVOR OF SOME AUGMENTATION; US - IN FAVOR OF FULL MNC REQUEST AND REQUIRED ADDITIONS, AS WELL AS INSISTENCE ON CURRENT COST SHARING PERCENTAGES. END SUMMARY.

1. INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE ON 14 SEP 76
HELD FIRST SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION OF NATO MNC REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS IN SLICE XXVI-XX GROUP. CHAIRMAN (SMITH) INDICATED INTERNATIONAL STAFF (IS)) PREFERENCE
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FOR OFF-THE-RECORD DISCUSSION SINCE ASG LABERGE HOPED TO CONVINCE SYG TO AGREE TO A PRESENTATION TO THE DPC AND A DECISION IN PRINCIPLE AT THAT LEVEL BEOFE QUOTE NATIONAL POSITIONS HARDENED UNQUOTE AT THE INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

LEVEL INTO A REFUSAL TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO MEET THE NATO MILITARY REQUIREMENTS. SINCE DPC (AND BOTH LABERGE AND LUNS) ARE AWAY FROM BRUSSELS, PRESENTATION COULD NOT BE MADE BEFORE 28 SEP WITH DISCUSSIONS TWO WEEKS LATER. WHILE AGREEING TO KEEP FIRST INFRASTRUCTURE-LEVEL DISCUSSION INFORMAL, COMMITTEE DECIDED TO START ITS SUBSTANTIVE WORK IMMEDIATELY IN ORDER TO COMPLETE ITS WORK BY EARLY NOVEMBER, THUS ANY DPC PRESENTATIONS WILL OCCUR IN PARALLEL RATHER THAN PRIOR TO THE INFRASTRUCUTE COMMITTEE WORK.

2. BOTH SHAPE AND SACLANT REPS (COL TURNER, UK, AND CDR DAHLEM, US) MADE ELOQUENT AND EFFICIENT PRESENTATIONS ON THE MANNER IN WHICH MNCS HAD ESTABLISHED THEIR FIRST PRIORITY REQUIREMENTS AND THEIR REDUCED QUOTE MINIMUM ESSENTIAL UNQUOTE REQUIREMENTS AMOUNTING TO IAU 241 MILLION.

3. NNC REPS ANSWERED DETAILED QUESTIONS ON COMPOSITION OF THEIR PRIORITIES (NOT DOWN TO INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS, HOWEVER), AND STATED THAT CONTINGENCY FUNDS WOULD INCREASE ABOVE TOTAL BY 10 PCT. US REP (LOVELAND) ADDED THAT US SPECIAL PROGRAM WOULD ADD STILL ANOTHER 7.933 PCT, FOR A GRAND TOTAL OF ABOUT IAU 286 MILLION. TO QUESTIONS OF NEED FOR NEW USSP FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS, US REP REPLIED THAT PRESENT COST SHARING ARRANGEMENT REQUIRED A USSP TO REDUCE THE US COST SHARE TO AN ACCEPTABLE ONE. THE US WOULD HAVE PREFERRED A SIMPLER ARRANGEMENT TO REDUCE ITS SHARE TO 20 PCT AS REQUIRED BY CONGRESS. WE HAD ACCEPTED THE DEVICE OF THE USSP IN ORDER TO CATER TO OTHER NATIONS' DESIRES NOT TO ESTABLISH THE FRG AS HIGHEST CONTRIBUTOR TO THE INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM. WE HAD ALSO ACCEPTED (AND SOLD TO CONGRESS) THE RESULTANT 21.56 PCT EFFECTIVE US SHARE. IT WAS NOT LIKELY THAT THE US COULD ACCEPT ANY ARRANGEMENT THAT WOULD INCREASE THAT 21.56 PCT SHARE. CANADIAN REP (DUNSEATH) INDICATED THAT HIS AUTHORITIES WOULD LIKELY TAKE EXCEPTION TO A REQUIREMENT O UNCLASSIFIED

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CONTRIBUTE TO AN ADDITIONAL USSP UNDER THE GUISE OF AN AUGMENTATION OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM TO MEET MNC QUOTE MINIMUM ESSENTIAL MILITARY UNQUOTE REQUIREMENTS. NO OTHER NATION JOINED THE CANADIAN POSITION AND THE BATTLE WAS NOT JOINED, BUT THIS ISSUE COULD BE TROUBLE-SOME IN THAT DUNSEATH'S PROPHECIES OF OTTAWA POSITIONS ARE FREQUENTLY SELF-FULFILLING, AS IN THE CASE OF NICS PRODUCTION SHARING.

4. NATIONAL POSITIONS ON AUGMENTATION AND AMOUNT THEREOF WERE GENERALLY UNAVAILABLE. THE NETHERLANDS REP (COOPS) INDICATED A POSITIVE ATTITUDE BUT COULD NOT NAME A FIGURE. THE US REP INDICATED SUPPORT OF FULL

MNC REQUEST INSOFAR AS THE COMMITTEE BELIEVED PROJECTS
TO BE SUBSTANTIATED FOR IMPLEMENTATION WITHIN THE
CURRENT COST SHARING PERIOD.STREATOR

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